

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 002081
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CARACAS

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF

SUBJECT: ICEM SEMINAR

REF: CARACAS A-180

1. ONCE AGAIN THE DEPARTMENT EXPRESSES ITS APPRECIATION TO THE EMBASSY FOR COVERING THE ICEM SEMINAR ON THE TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY THROUGH SELECTED MIGRATION HELD IN CARACAS LATE LAST YEAR AND FOR THE PERCEPTIVE REPORTING ON THE MEETINGS. TO COMPLETE THIS CHAPTER OF ICEM ACTIVITIES, A BRIEF COMMENT ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS OUTLINED IN THE REFERENCED AIRGRAM MIGHT BE USEFUL.

2. THE USG IS THE PRINCIPAL CONTRIBUTOR TO ICEM'S PROGRAMS

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AND OPERATING COST AND MORE THAN FIFTY PERCENT OF BUDGET OF DOLS. 31 MILLION IS U.S. MONEY. SPECIFIC U.S. SUPPORT FOR THE PROGRAM OF SELECTED MIGRATION FOR LATIN AMERICA HAS BEEN REDUCED OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS BECAUSE OF LAGGING CONTRIBUTIONS FROM OTHER MEMBERS AND ON THE BASIS OF HIGH COSTS FOR LIMITED RESULTS. THE QUESTION OF U.S. SUPPORT FOR THIS PARTICULAR ICEM ACTIVITY IS UNDER CONSTANT REVIEW.

3. THERE IS A FOCAL POINT IN THE USG FOR LIAISON WITH ICEM
AND FOR CONSIDERATION OF ALL ICEM ACTIVITIES AS THEY MAY

BEAR ON U.S. INTERESTS. HA/ORM MONITORS ICEM'S WORK ON
PRACTICALLY A DAILY BASIS EITHER DIRECTLY WITH HEAD-
QUARTERS GENEVA OR THROUGH U.S. MISSION, GENEVA, THIS
ARRANGEMENT HAS BEEN IN EXISTENCE FOR OVER TWENTY-SIX
YEARS.

4. THE USG APPRECIATES THE VALUE OF THE FRG-SPONSORED
QUOTE INTEGRATED EXPERTS UNQUOTE PROGRAM; HOWEVER, THE
FRG HAS THE RESOURCES AND A PARTICULAR INTEREST IN PLACING
SURPLUS SPECIALISTS INCLUDING GUEST WORKERS. WHILE THE
FRG IS REASONABLY GENEROUS IN ITS FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF
ICEM, IT HAS HAD A FIXED AGREEMENT WITH THE ORGANIZATION
SINCE 1968 WHICH HAS NOT BEEN REVISED UPWARD IN ALMOST TEN
YEARS TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT INFLATION AND OTHER RISING
COSTS, THAT IS NOT TO SUGGEST IN ANY SENSE THAT THE U.S.
DOES NOT VALUE FRG MEMBERSHIP VERY HIGHLY. EACH MEMBER
GOVERNMENT OF ANY INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION HAS ITS
SPECIAL INTEREST IN PARTICULAR ASPECTS OF THE WORK OF THE
ORGANIZATION AND THAT IS TRUE IN THE ICEM CASE.

5. IN ANY EVENT, THE USG IS FAR IN THE LEAD IN SUPPORTING
ALL ICEM ACTIVITIES. CHRISTOPHER
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